TELEGRAM INFORMATION REPORT TELEGRAM

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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CLASSIFICATION — DISSEMINATION CONTROLS

SECRET/NO FOREIGN DISSEM

COUNTRY WEST GERMANY

SUBJECT COALITION EXPECTATIONS OF SPD LEADERS WEHNER AND BRANDT

DATE OF INFO. 10 OCTOBER 1963

PLACE & DATE ACQ. GERMANY (12 OCTOBER 1963)

APPRAISAL 3

REPORT NO. TDCS -3/562,546

DATE DISTR.

PRECEDENCE

REFERENCES IN

FIELD REPORT NO. EGO-242

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

SOURCE SOCIALIST FUNCTIONARY (F) WITH GOOD CONTACTS IN THE WEHNER CAMP.

1. DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SOCIALIST PARTY /SPD/ CHANCELLOR CANDIDATE WILLY BRANDT AND SPD DEPUTY CHAIRMAN HERBERT WEHNER CONTINUE AND ARE BECOMING MORE INTENSE NOW THAT CHAIRMAN ERICH OLLENHAUER IS ILL. IN ADDITION TO POLITICAL FACTORS, THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN BRANDT AND WEHNER IS ENCUMBERED BY PERSONALITY DIFFERENCES WHICH MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR THEM TO WORK HARMONIOUSLY.

2. CURRENTLY, THE MAJOR POLITICAL DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THESE TWO CONTENDERS FOR SPD LEADERSHIP CONCERNS THE ''COALITION OF THE FUTURE''. WEHNER STRONGLY SUPPORTS A GRAND COALITION WITH THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS AND BELIEVES

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GROUP 1 Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification

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DATE 2007

THAT IT IS POSSIBLE BEFORE THE 1965 ELECTIONS. THIS EXPECTATION IS BASED ON WEHNER'S ESTIMATE THAT LUDWIG ERHARD WILL BE UNABLE TO HOLD THE CDU/FDP COALITION TOGETHER AND WILL BE FORCED TO LOOK FOR A NEW COALITION PARTNER.

3. ON THE OTHER HAND, BRANDT'S PLANS FORSEE AN SPD SURGE IN THE 1965 ELECTIONS WHICH WILL BRING DOWN THE CDU FROM ITS DOMINANT POSITION AND ENABLE HIM TO BECOME CHANCELLOR OF AN SPD/FDP GOVERNMENT.

4. (HEADQUARTERS COMMENT. ACCORDING TO ANOTHER SOURCE, A WELL-PLACED OFFICIAL IN THE BERLIN SENATE, THE CONFLICT BETWEEN BRANDT AND WEHNER HINGES ON THEIR DIFFERENT OPINIONS CONCERNING THE CONDUCT OF THE 1965 ELECTION CAMPAIGN. WEHNER FAVORS BASING THE CAMPAIGN ON DOMESTIC ISSUES, WHILE BRANDT WOULD MAKE FOREIGN AFFAIRS THE CENTRAL ISSUE.)

5. FIELD DISTRIBUTION: STATE, ARMY, AIR

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